

# MISSING BOY'S MOTHER IN A CRITICAL CONDITION.

Strong in Belief that Willie McCormick Was Kidnapped, While Police, Denying This Theory, Are Working Day and Night Upon It.



Ten days have passed since Willie McCormick disappeared from his home in Highbridge and while his heart-broken mother, weeping at home, is in danger of fatal collapse, the mystery of the lad's whereabouts grows deeper.

Despite the fact that Oscar Wiegert, the wealthy merchant who thinks the abductors intended to take his boy, has offered a reward for the poor lad's return despite the fact that the shrewdest detectives have worked night and day on the case, the lad has not yet been found.

All clues to substantiate the runaway theory have been run down and proved fruitless. Not an actual trace of the boy has been discovered.

Meanwhile, the boy's father has been receiving letters daily from those who purport to have stolen the lad and are holding him for ransom.

Captain Gannon, of Highbridge, says the letters are palpable fakes. Mr. McCormick says each new letter brings him greater distress and more certain conviction that his boy has been abducted.

Capt. Gannon has detectives watching every letter-box connected with Station R, through which all of the letters heretofore received from the alleged kidnappers have passed.

#### Tramps the Abductors?

Two letters came in yesterday, one received late yesterday. The letters were not mailed in New York. Mr. McCormick would not give out their contents today, but he says they appear to come direct from the kidnappers, who are holding his boy in place close to this city. He intimated that the kidnappers are tramps.

Though confined to bed most of yesterday, Mr. McCormick seemed better and more hopeful this morning.

**POLICemen SAY:** He who could not be held in confinement and misery, would not stay after three or four days without money, nothing to eat, no place to lay his head. Wiegert had been approached by a messenger, offering \$1000 for the return of his son.

**KIDNAPPERS' LETTERS:** Five letters received by Mr. McCormick all in same handwriting, all posted at Station R in Bronx, threatening to torture boy unless \$1000 was paid.

**POLICE CLUES FOR RUNAWAY THEORY:** Boys answering descriptions given by Christopher Murray in Bay Ridge have been found in Wild West, Brooklyn, and other parts of town. Boys answering description seen about the houses and uniforms of Bay Ridge boys. Boys answering description have been seen frequenting freight car from Harlem to Troy.

"I'm sending my men through every freight yard between Harlem and Yonkers," said Capt. Gannon today. "The will investigate a letter I received last night from Albany. The letter is this:

#### In This the Boy?

ALBANY, N. Y., April 4.—Capt. Gannon, New York Police Department, New York, N. Y.

Sir: On Sunday morning, March 30, two tramps and a boy about ten years of age walked down from Troy to East Albany. One of the tramps walked into the drug store at the Hotel to obtain some soap. The boy asked him for soap, and he said, "He said the boy can get a box of soap to go to Yonkers, but that the boy was fastened and they were brought to Troy before they could get out. The four men's ages ran from eighteen to twenty-four years."

The boy is about ten years old and answers the description in every respect of the McCormick boy. I am satisfied that he is the lost boy. This may have some reference to the case on which you are now working.

JOHN S. WOLFE, Lawyer, 68 State Street.

P.S.—The men and boy said they had enough of tramping with nothing to eat, and intended to catch the next freight going west to get back to Harlem.

"Now I take that as pretty strong confirmation of my theory that the boy has run away," continued the captain. "I expect he will land here by freight some time during the day. Of course, I am not positive the boy has run away."

## FACTS IN MYSTERY OF BOY'S DISAPPEARANCE.

WILLIE McCormick, ten years old, fair complexion and hair, blue eyes, check suit and cap, black stockings and shoes, left home at 7:30 P. M. March 27.

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## LATEST MESSAGE RECEIVED BY MR. M'CORMICK.

Dear Sir: To show you that I am not afraid of your police protection, I will write my communication on this card. I am not doing it myself. I have some one to do it for me. I see you had to get some detectives to stand around and watch me. Please, you comply with my wishes without interfering with this mother, you won't get your boy back at all. This evening a man in a window with call and leave a note for you to deposit your money. But SEE THAT HE IS LEFT ALONE OR YOU WILL HAVE NO MONEY. Keep this quiet. THE KIDS FRIEND.

## WIN SUIT FROM COLUMBIA.

### Colorado Men Get Judgment in Bernard Bequest.

A judgment was entered in the United States Circuit Court, Friday, against Columbia College for \$3496.61, in the suit brought against Columbia College in August, 1896, by Alie and L. W. Schaffer, co-executors of the Estate of Almost of Colorado.

By the will of Frederick A. P. Barnard, who died in April, 1889, Columbia College was made a legatee of the estate.

The plaintiffs alleged that they were creditors of the Barnard estate to the amount of \$6657.61, and asked judgment for that amount with interest from October, 1896.

### Four Hour in Collision.

NEW YORK, N. Y., April 5.—An extra freight train and a light engine of the Bronx, White Plains and Ossining Railroad were in collision near Bronx today. Four train hands were injured, but none of them fatally.

### Carnegie Library Bill Passed.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 5.—The Assembly today passed a bill authorizing the acceptance of the gift of Carnegie for the establishment of branch libraries there.

## Piles Cured

Edward Dunellen, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.: "For seven years I was scarcely ever free from the terrible torture of itching piles. I tried all sorts of remedies. Was told a surgical operation might save. One 50 cents box of Pyramid Pile Cure entirely cured me." All druggists sell it. Free book by mail on Piles causes and cure. Pyramid Drug Co., Marquette, Mich.

## \$1.00 FOR 50 CTS.

The boy went home to support but was not found. The boy was found. "Why should the McCormicks want to have a son?" The boy was kidnapped rather than that he was a runaway? Well, there was an implied threat. The parents knew it. They made things hard for the police. Will show greater activity in closing up kidnapping mystery than in running over it. Can't wait to see what the McCormicks clearly have the lad and will stop at no sacrifice to get him home safely.

## DE RESZKE GETTING BETTER.

### Opera Will Probably Stop Next Monday and Mother Tomorrow.

HOPKINS, April 5.—The management of the grand opera season here announced today that Mme. Melba and De Reszke, who have been suffering from vocal trouble, are improving. Mme. Melba is expected to be able to sing Saturday afternoon. De Reszke, who was ill with a slight cold, is also improving rapidly and is likely to induce even more violent results.

### DOCTOR DELIVER LETTER.

He did not deliver the letter. One of his chums saw him Jerome, Avery, a stock boy at Webster's, right along Avenue, whether from a laundress or an apothecary, was sent to the company, who was then writing to him that the McCormicks are reliable informants that in eight years up in winters

## THE GUARANTEE CLOTHING COMPANY.

Upper Cor. 127th Street and Third Avenue.

Enterilles and Master clothes are making happy men and women in upper New York. Men glad of the chance to be well dressed and at the same time, being in the latest fashions and in fact perfect. In fact, and finish, and most important of all. **Positively lower prices than elsewhere.** We can convince you of a savings of \$10 on your buying into Purple Blue.

Boys' Lon' Pants Confirmation Suits, \$4.50, \$5.00, \$6.00, \$7.50, \$10.00, \$12.00; Men's String Overalls, \$4.98, \$6.00, \$7.50, \$10.00, \$12.00; Men's Dress Trousers, \$2.50, \$3.00, \$4.00, \$5.00, \$6.00; We are Agents for W. L. Douglas Stock Shoes. Also, the Ladies' Means \$2.50 Shoes. The above makes all the first frys, Vichy, Box, Galt, Patent Leather and Russells.

*Open Late During This Week.*

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Upper Corner 127th Street and Third Avenue.

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## Easter Buying.

Great Price Inducements To-Morrow.

### Boys' and Young Men's Clothing. Largest Assortment in the City.

Doublé-breasted Suits, all wool, to styles, 6 to 16, \$1.98. Elegant Dress Suits, thin, drab, blue and mixtures, 6 to 16, \$2.98, 3.98. Blue Serge Suits, guaranteed fast colors, 6 to 16, \$2.98, 3.98. Three Piece Suits with vests, choice assortments, 10 to 16, \$3.98 to \$5.95. Three Piece Suits, blue serge worsteds, 10 to 16, \$3.98 to \$5.95. Confirmation Suits, blue serge worsteds, with short or long trousers, all sizes, \$5.00 to \$10.00. Long Pant Suits for Young Men, 14 to 20, great variety, \$5.00 to \$10.00. Store Overcoats for Young Men, 14 to 20, Tan and Gray, 5.95 to 7.50.

### Great Sale To-morrow of Misses' and Children's Garments.

CHILDREN'S BROADCLOTH REEFER JACKETS, with deep collar trimmed with braids, all the new colorings, sizes 6, 8, 10 and 12 years, \$1.98. CHILDREN'S AND CHILDREN'S TAN COATS, lined, velvet collar, lined throughout with silk, sizes 6 to 12, \$3.00. MISSSES' AND CHILDREN'S TAN COATS, lined, velvet collar, lined throughout with silk, sizes 6 to 12, \$3.75.

### Special Sale To-morrow of 3,000 Pairs Ladies' Shoes, \$1.95.

Pine Apple Kid and Cloth Tops, light soles, straight patent leather, tan, white, London and common sense last, widths B to EEE, sizes 6 to 12.

For Sale. For Sale.

## CREDIT.

Latest Spring styles of Men's, Youths' and Children's

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